

## DISTORTED COWRIES

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### SUMMARY

The paper records some distorted cowries in the South Australian Museum collection.

#### *Lyncina lynx caledonica* Crosse

*Cypraea caledonica* Crosse 1869. Journ. de Conch., Vol. 17, p. 41, pl. 1, fig. 1.

A series of five specimens of "*C. caledonica*" (D. 3920), the name given to a distorted form of *L. lynx*, from New Caledonia, range from the *C. caledonica* form to almost typical *C. lynx*. The largest specimen agrees exactly in size with the holotype of *C. caledonica*, height 59 mm.  $\times$  width 24 mm.  $\times$  dorso-ventral 29 mm. The second largest specimen is 56 mm.  $\times$  25 mm.  $\times$  25 mm. The remainder are smaller and merely slightly narrower in proportion than typical *C. lynx*. Another series of eight specimens (D. 3917), from the same locality, are somewhat irregularly weakly pustulose on the margins, but are nearer to typical *C. lynx* than the distorted form, both in colouration and shape.

#### *Ornamentaria annulus noumeensis* Marie

*Cypraea noumensts* Marie 1869, Journ. de Conch., Vol. 17, p. 18, pl. 2, fig. 6.

Two mature specimens, from Noumea, examined are miniatures measuring, length 15 mm.  $\times$  width 9 mm.  $\times$  dorso-ventral 7 mm., and 14 mm.  $\times$  8 mm.  $\times$  6 mm. The holotype is 30 mm.  $\times$  15 mm.  $\times$  13 mm.

#### *Monetaria moneta barthelemyi* Bernardi

*Cypraea barthelemyi* Crosse 1861. Journ. de Conch., Vol. 9, p. 48, pl. 1, figs. 3, 4.

Holotype measurement of this New Caledonian species is height 37 mm., width 22 mm.

Our series of thirteen shells grade from typical *C. barthelemyi*, to normal *C. moneta*. D. 3529(13).

The most distorted pair measure, height 31 mm., width 17 mm., dorso-ventral 12 mm., 34 mm.  $\times$  18 mm.  $\times$  15 mm.

#### *Bistolida stolidi crossei* Marie

*Cypraea crossei* Marie 1869. Journ. de Conch., Vol. 17, p. 16, pl. 1, fig. 3.

Our three specimens are from Noumea, and are shorter than the holotype. Height 38 mm., width 19 mm., dorso-ventral 16 mm., 35 mm.  $\times$  20 mm.  $\times$  15 mm., 37 mm.  $\times$  19 mm.  $\times$  15 mm. D. 3587(3).

The holotype measurements are 43 mm.  $\times$  20 mm.  $\times$  15 mm.

#### *Arabica arabica niger* Roberts

*Cypraea niger* Roberts 1885. Tryon's Manual Conchology, Vol. 7, p. 174, pl. 8, fig. 3.

A series of seventeen specimens grade from the typical narrow, high, dark *C. niger* through normal shaped dark specimens to slightly narrower lighter

coloured shells. The narrowest and most distorted specimen measures, height 55 mm., width 29 mm., dorso-ventral 27 mm. The surface is pustulose and the colour dark blackish-brown. D. 3930(10). D. 3931(4).

*Notocypraea declivis* Sowerby

*Cypraea declivis* Sowerby 1870. Thes. Conch., Vol. 4, p. 31, figs. 287, 328, 329.

This sinistral specimen of *Notocypraea declivis* is briefly referred to in the "Journ. Malacological Soc., Aust.", No. 2, p. 9, 1958. D. 14602(1).

The shell is typical in colour and noticeably wider than the Western Australian *N. occidentalis* Iredale 1935, as figured by the present author in the above publication. The height is 22 mm. and width 19 mm., and dorso-ventral 11 mm.

Since writing the above, Mr. R. V. Drogemüller mentioned a sinistral specimen of *N. verconis* taken at Port MacDonnell by Ian Carrison.